

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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Theft Suspect no Match for GPS

On January 16, 2014, a home in the Phoenix area was burglarized and a report documenting the incident was completed by Phoenix Police Officers. The listed total value for the stolen items was \$8400 and included electronic items and jewelry. The burglary victim had installed a GPS tracking device in one of the items just in case it was ever stolen. Later that evening, the victim was able to track this particular item by internet to a location the in the 2600 block of N. Sunburst Road, Chino Valley. After confirming the item remained stationary, the victim called Yavapai County Sheriff's Office to report this information.



On January 17, 2014, a deputy and detective were dispatched to investigate and went to a home on Sunburst Road in Chino Valley. This home matched a photo obtained from a satellite image created based on GPS coordinates generated by the stolen property locator. The homeowner was contacted and explained that her son, **37-year-old James Yunis**, resided with her but was not home at the time.

The homeowner was asked and consented to allow detectives to search the residence. At this time, a locating beacon was activated by the victim and drew detectives to James' bedroom. The detectives eventually found several thousand dollars' worth of stolen property from the Phoenix burglary under his bed.

Later that day, Chino Valley Police Officers found James inside a Chino Valley bar and he was detained. Additional stolen property was recovered. James was booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center for "Theft-Control of Stolen Property" and remains in-custody on a \$10,000 bond. Joint investigation with the Phoenix Police Department is ongoing to establish the suspect's apparent connection to this burglary.



Actual GPS image
documenting location of
stolen property